

Citizens Committee on U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement



Mission:

1. Encourage citizens to be a part of the solution
2. Encourage City staff and citizens to conserve current resources
3. Work with the City Council to implement ideas
4. Address effectively the future impacts of climate change

Committee Members:

Citizens: Steve Bernheim, Sue Bauer, Carolyn Chapel, Wes Gallagher,
Wayne Grotheer, Hank Landau, Ben Hines
City Staff: Mayor Gary Haakenson, Steve Fisher, Sally Lider, Noel Miller, Linda Carl

Meeting Agenda

November 2, 2006

1. ICLEI membership information	Amy Shatzkin, ICLEI
2. Report on Sustainable Business Conference	Wes
3. Top priorities for our committee	Gary

Meeting Notes

October 5, 2006

Present: Sue Bauer, Steve Bernheim, Carolyn Chapel, Wes Gallagher, Wayne Grotheer,
Ben Hines, Hank Landau, Mayor Gary Haakenson, Steve Fisher, Linda Carl

Absent: Noel Miller, Sally Lider

Also in attendance: Dave Sittauer, Fleet Maintenance Manager

The ICLEI application has been completed and was sent in along with the membership dues, and we're waiting now for confirmation and our toolkit.

The Mayor proclaimed October 4 as "Change a Light Day" in Edmonds to encourage all citizens to switch at least one regular light bulb to an energy-efficient one. The committee suggested posting the proclamation at local stores in their light bulb section.

Steve Bernheim, Dave Sittauer, and Noel Miller met with several Transportation Committee members to discuss ways to transition to a "green" fleet using more biodiesel fuel. The Port of Seattle, the City of Seattle, and the City of Tacoma (among others) use B20 biodiesel. The group recommending starting with a pilot program using one of the City's heavy dumptrucks. They will monitor the results and bring the findings back to the Mayor. Things they will consider are cost efficiency, where to purchase the fuel, and consistency. Hybrids are also an option, but they're more expensive. The City will consider purchasing a few electric cars to use, for instance, for water meter and parking enforcement vehicles. The concern regarding using biodiesel in emergency vehicles is that the fuel may cause the vehicle to stop running. Dave is looking at the possibility of converting an incinerator to B100; the cost would increase \$48K. He said that lawnmowers are a large polluter as well. Dave is meeting with a representative with a company listed on the State contract to find out more about converting to biodiesel.

Gary is presenting his budget message to the City Council in a few weeks and will talk about potential budget cuts in 2008-2010. He will factor in the possible increase in expenditures to go "green."

Carolyn asked if the City is considering using LED or other emergency light options. All the new patrol cars have LED lighting; however, this, too, is more expensive.

There was discussion on the committee's top ten suggestions for protecting our climate, including "driver education," such as keeping tires inflated properly, combining errands/trips in your car, keeping your car tuned, and getting prescriptions by mail. Local shopping areas, like Firdale Village and Five Corners, encourage people to walk more and drive less. Other suggestions, such as smaller parking spaces, are not doable because of State regulations.

Hank suggested a three-part series in the local paper: what the City is doing, what citizens can do, and what we can do with other cities. Also, he suggested including children by going to schools and perhaps providing yearly incentives/prizes. Sue suggested posters or articles in the local papers and City newsletter to address myths and help educate the public.

Gary will review the lists the committee members provided regarding their top ten priorities and reduce it to one list.

Steve F. reported that the Watershed Fun Fair went well; lots of families attended. Carolyn also helped staff the climate protection booth.

Sue reminded everyone that the tour of Shoreline homes this weekend.

Our next meeting is Thursday, November 2 at 9 a.m.